# **COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**



FIRE DEPARTMENT

1320 NORTH EASTERN AVENUE LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90063-3294 (323) 881-2401

P. MICHAEL FREEMAN FIRE CHIEF FORESTER & FIRE WARDEN

October 10, 2006

The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

REQUEST TO AUTHORIZE THE ACQUISITION OF THREE OUTFITTED MOBILE COMMAND POST VEHICLE BODIES TO BE INSTALLED ON DISTRICT-OWNED CHASSIS' AND ONE EMERGENCY MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS UNIT AND APPROVE THE ATTACHED APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT TO FUND THE PURCHASES (ALL DISTRICTS) (4 VOTES)

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD ACTING AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CONSOLIDATED FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY:

1. Approve the Consolidated Fire Protection District's (District) request and authorize the Purchasing Agent to proceed with the solicitation and acquisition of three outfitted mobile command post vehicle bodies. Each body and the necessary equipment contained therein total approximately \$600,000 each, for a total project cost of \$1,800,000. This purchase exceeds the \$250,000 fixed asset threshold established by your Board and requires your approval to move forward with the solicitation and acquisition process.

SERVING THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY AND THE CITIES OF:

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- 2. Approve the District's request and authorize the Purchasing Agent to proceed with the solicitation and acquisition of one emergency mobile communications unit. This unit and the necessary equipment contained therein costs approximately \$600,000. This purchase exceeds the \$250,000 fixed asset threshold established by your Board and requires your approval to move forward with the solicitation and acquisition process.
- 3. Approve the attached Appropriation Adjustment to recognize \$1,478,000 in federal Homeland Security Grant funding to be appropriated into the District's Special Operations Budget Unit Fixed Asset Appropriation to fund the purchase of three outfitted mobile command post vehicle bodies and one emergency mobile communications unit.

# PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION:

On November 12, 2003, your Board approved the solicitation and acquisition of three completely outfitted mobile command post vehicles to provide critical command and control support required during large-scale emergency incidents. On August 9, 2005, your Board approved the solicitation and acquisition of one emergency mobile communications unit to increase the District's ability to provide critical communication support required during large-scale emergency incidents.

In 2005, the original bids for the purchase of three mobile command post vehicles and one emergency mobile communications unit were awarded to Mattman Specialty Vehicles; however, due to financial difficulties, Mattman Specialty Vehicles was unable to complete production of the mobile command post vehicles or begin production of the emergency mobile communications unit. The District holds title for the three incomplete chassis' for which the District has expended \$372,749.96, but requires three completely outfitted bodies installed on these chassis to complete the mobile command post vehicles. In order to complete production of the mobile command post vehicles and initiate production of the emergency mobile communications unit, the solicitation of new vendors is required and therefore the District is returning to your Board for approval.

#### Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

This purchase supports the County's Strategic Goal #8 for *Public Safety*, by increasing the safety and security of all residents in Los Angeles County through the comprehensive integration of public safety information systems.

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## FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

The total estimated cost for completion of the mobile command post vehicle bodies and emergency mobile communications unit is approximately \$2.4 million.

With your Board's approval of the attached Appropriation Adjustment, sufficient funding will be available in the District's Special Operations Bureau Fixed Asset Appropriation for the purchase of these vehicles. The District will receive reimbursement in the amount of \$1,478,000 from the Fiscal Year 2003 State Homeland Security Grant Program Part II and Fiscal Year 2004 State Homeland Security Grant Program to partially fund the purchases. The District will request, through the local grant administrator, authorization to reallocate \$922,000 in federal Homeland Security Grant funding included in the District's 2006-07 Budget to make up the remaining balance.

Maintenance costs will be funded within the District's existing budget. There is no impact on net County cost.

## FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS:

On October 16, 2001, your Board adopted a policy whereby departments must obtain Board approval to purchase or finance equipment with a unit cost of \$250,000 or greater prior to submitting their requisitions to the Purchasing Agent.

#### **CONTRACTING PROCESS:**

This is a commodity purchase under the statutory authority of the Purchasing Agent. The purchase will be requisitioned through, and accomplished by the Purchasing Agent in accordance with the County's Purchasing Policies and Procedures, established by the Internal Services Department.

## **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS):**

Approval of the recommended action will provide the District's command staff with the command and technological platform to effectively plan and manage large-scale emergency incidents and expand the District's interoperability communication capabilities.

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### **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION:**

The acquisition of three outfitted mobile command post vehicle bodies and one emergency mobile communications unit is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15061 (b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines because it can be seen with certainty that this acquisition will not have a significant effect on the environment.

## **CONCLUSION:**

Upon approval by the Board of Supervisors, please instruct the Executive Officer to return three (3) adopted copies of this letter to:

- Los Angeles County Consolidated Fire Protection District Materials Management Division
   5801 S. Eastern Avenue, Suite 100
   Commerce, CA 90040
   Attention: James Ealey, Division Chief
- Los Angeles County Consolidated Fire Protection District Financial Management Division 5801 S. Eastern Avenue, Suite 130 Commerce, CA 90040 Attention: Helen E. Jo, Division Chief
- Internal Services Department
   Purchasing Division
   1100 N. Eastern Avenue, Room 102
   Los Angeles, CA 90063
   Attention: Joe Sandoval, Division Manager

Respectfully submitted

PMF:gt

Attachment

c: Chief Administrative Office, County Counsel, Auditor-Controller, ISD

#### COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

#### REQUEST FOR APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT No.

DEPARTMENT OF FIRE

September 28, 18 2006

AUDITOR-CONTROLLER.

THE FOLLOWING APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT IS DEEMED NECESSARY BY THIS DEPARTMENT. WILL YOU PLEASE REPORT AS TO ACCOUNTING AND AVAILABLE BALANCES AND FORWARD TO THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER FOR HIS RECOMMENDATION OF ACTION.

ADJUSTMENT REQUESTED AND REASONS THEREFOR

4-VOTE Fiscal Year 2006-07

SOURCES:

Fire Department
Special Operations Budget Unit
Charges for Services-Miscellaneous Services
DA!-FR-40041-9497
\$ 1,478,000

USES:

Fire Department Special Operations Fixed Assets DA1-FR-40041-6030 \$ 1,478,000

The Appropriation Adjustment is necessary to recognize \$1,478,000 in Homeland Security Grants to fund the purchase of three outfitted command vehicle bodies and an Emergency Mobile Communications Unit.

Theresa Barrera, Assistant Chief, FMD

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

ACTION APPROVED AS REQUESTED

AS REVISED

RECOMMENDATION

RECOMMENDATION

APPROVED AS REQUESTED

AS REVISED

CHIEF AS WHITE TRACTIVE OFFICER

APPROVED (AS REVISED):

BOARD OF SUPER VISORS

BY

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK